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Social development: review and appraisal of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons

Philippines: draft resolution

Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons: realizing the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions concerning persons with disabilities, in particular resolution 62/127 of 18 December 2007, in which it recognized the important role of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons[1] in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, and the importance of including the perspective of persons with disabilities in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of progress in reaching the Millennium Development Goals and other international development goals,

Aware that there are at least 650 million persons with disabilities worldwide and that the majority of them live in conditions of poverty, and in this regard recognizing the critical need to address the negative impact of poverty on persons with disabilities,

Reaffirming the need to include the rights of and be sensitive to the situation and needs of persons with disabilities in development efforts at the national, regional and international levels, and that if the perspective of persons with disabilities is not taken into account, the internationally agreed development goals, in particular the Millennium Development Goals, will not be genuinely achieved, and in this regard stressing the need to improve complementarity and synergy in the implementation of the three main United Nations mechanisms, namely, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons and the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities, each of which can build or strengthen

[1] A/37/351/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex, sect. VIII, recommendation I (IV).

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the effectiveness of national legislation, the domestic policy environment and development programmes affecting persons with disabilities,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the fifth quinquennial review and appraisal of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons,[2] which provides a comprehensive assessment of the world disability situation and expounds on the utility of the international normative framework on disability in strengthening the responsiveness of development efforts to disability concerns, and expresses appreciation for the concrete examples and recommendations in that regard;

2. *Expresses* concern about the persistent gap between policy and practice regarding mainstreaming the perspective of persons with disabilities, including their rights and well-being, in the work of the United Nations in realizing the Millennium Development Goals;

3. *Encourages* States, in cooperation with, inter alia, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as regional and international financial institutions and the private sector, as appropriate, to be guided in their work by the objectives of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, as well as those of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities, and to examine and ensure that development strategies, policies and programmes aimed at implementing internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, are inclusive of issues concerning persons with disabilities and promote the equalization of opportunities for all by:

(a) Ensuring accessibility, including through reasonable accommodation to enable persons with disabilities to live independently and participate fully in all aspects of life and to participate as agents and beneficiaries of development;

(b) Providing appropriate resources and accessible social services and safety nets for persons with disabilities to ensure improved well-being for all;

(c) Ensuring an adequate standard of living and social protection for persons with disabilities, including through access to poverty and hunger eradication programmes, inclusive quality education, in particular free and compulsory primary education and secondary education, as well as the same range, quality and standard of free or affordable health care as provided to other persons, and the promotion of full employment and decent work for all;

(d) Promoting and strengthening national capacities for participatory, democratic and accountable processes and mechanisms that further the equalization of opportunities for the full and effective participation of persons with disabilities in civil, political, economic, social and cultural life;

4. *Also encourages* States to be guided by the international normative standards in formulating, implementing and evaluating the foregoing actions;

5. *Encourages* improvement, by providing better training in national statistics offices, in the ability of States to collect and analyse appropriate information on the situation of persons with disabilities, including statistical and research data that are disaggregated by age and sex and information on the causes

[2] A/63/183.

and costs of disability, the participation of persons with disabilities in society and the environment and disability, bearing in mind appropriate protection of personal data, for purposes of policy planning, analysis and evaluation that include the perspective of persons with disabilities, and in this regard invites States to avail themselves of the technical services of the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat;

6. *Calls upon* States to include in country reports, in connection with the forthcoming periodic reviews of progress in achieving the Millennium Development Goals, a review and evaluation of the impact of development efforts on the rights, well-being and livelihood of persons with disabilities;

7. *Reaffirms its commitment* to respect and promote, without discrimination, the rights of indigenous persons with disabilities, and urges States to take effective measures to continue to improve their economic and social conditions;

8. *Encourages* States to promote, in a proactive manner, the perspective of persons with disabilities in international cooperation by enhancing channels of cooperation and exploring new options, whether through development assistance, multilateral, bilateral or regional arrangements, South-South cooperation, trilateral cooperation or other forms of technical exchange, to accomplish the goal of mainstreaming disability in development cooperation;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session, taking into account annex I of the report of the Secretary-General on the fifth quinquennial review and appraisal of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons,[2] updates of the World Programme of Action in the form of global strategic guidelines for advancement of persons with disabilities in development, which could be developed and updated every five years and should be based on experience in implementing the World Programme of Action, the Standard Rules and corresponding provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and on inputs from regional consultations, States and individual experts, as well as existing data available to the United Nations;

(b) To submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a single, comprehensive, biennial report on progress and challenges concerning the advancement of persons with disabilities in the context of development, to include monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the World Programme of Action, in conjunction with the Standard Rules, as well as guidance based on monitoring of the Convention;

(c) To ensure that there is increased accessibility in the services and facilities of the United Nations for persons with disabilities.